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Moscow Expels Bonn Aide Accused of Opus Dei Link

MOSCOW, Jan. 3 (Reuters)—
The Soviet Union expelled today
the West German Embassy's
First Secretary, three months
after he was accused of spreading anti-Soviet propaganda and
collecting information for the
Roman Catholic organization
Opus Dei.

A spokesman for the West German Embassy said the diplomat, Dr. Alois Hertes, 44 years old, had been given four days to leave Moscow. The charges were denied.

Dr. Hertes has denied that he is or ever has been a member or supporter of Opus Dei, a sceular, semi-secret Roman Catholic organization founded in Spain in 1928 to promote the application of Christian ideals to everyday life.

The West German spokesman

The West German spokesman said the Russian move appeared to have been in retaliation for the expulsion of a Soviet diplomat, Yakov Barzukov, from West Germany last month.